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moved; the vault was cleaned and fumigated as well as possible, and the fumigations were repeatedly made in the church itself with its doors closed. In four or five days it was necessary to fill it again with patients, and the fumigations were continued for a week; no contagion was perceived.

In my opinion the instructions in the formula above alluded to, are not sufficiently explanatory, with respect to the preservative effect of the hyper-oxygenated muriatic gas, I found it had also the property of killing vermin; and it ought to be applied to the clothes of the sick soldiers, which are laid up on their coming into the hospital. Beside flies, which annoyed us much in Poland, we were also dreadfully afflicted with fleas and bugs, and on applying the above fumigations, they were all found dead.

Letter from M. Benoit Mojon, chief Physician to the Military Hospital at Genoa, on the same Subject.

Genoa, Aug. 20, 1807.

Two months ago a contagious dysentery made its appearance in the military hospital at Genoa, and almost all the patients under my care, amounting to about two hundred, were all attacked. As it is generally allowed that when dysentery is contagious, it is owing to an indiscriminate use of the same privy, I was anxious to try if fumigations of oxygenated muriatic acid had the effect of destroying the contagious exhalations which produce dysentery in healthy as well as in diseased subjects. With this view I caused the privies in the hospitals to be fumigated twice a day, and succeeded in destroying this contagion in a few days. Contagious dysentery being of frequent recurrence in the hospitals of Genoa, it is likely that I shall have frequent opportunities of witnessing the happy effects of similar precautions.

Remarks. The beneficial effects of the acid fumigations in destroying the contagion of infectious fevers are now universally known; even the yellow fever has yielded to its powerful influence, and there is reason to think that the plague itself, if not entire-

ly eradicated by it, might, at least, be much checked by its timely use.

In the above paper we have an account of two or three new applications of the acid fumigations, well worth notice, particularly that in which it succeeded so well in stopping the progress of dysentery, a disorder so often fatal in our armies, that we think it a duty of humanity to give the fact every publicity in our power. The other new discovered benefit of the acid fumigation, though of less consequence, yet is of no small value, as contributing so much to cleanliness and comfort; the great difficulty of removing bugs where they have once become numerous, is well known, but the easy and effectual method of doing this, by the acid fumigation above mentioned, promises, when sufficiently known and practised, to completely remove this nuisance from society.

New and excellent method of Packing young Fruit and other Trees for carriage. By Mr. Wm. Curtis.

Phil. Mag. vol. 34. p. 156.

Mr. William Curtis, of the Botanic garden, Brompton, has lately been rewarded by the Society of Arts, &c. for his valuable application of the long white moss of the marshes (the *sphagnum palustre* of Linnæus) to the packing of young fruit and other trees for exportation. He does this by squeezing out part of the moisture from the moss, and laying courses of it about three inches thick, interposed with other courses of the trees (previously shortened in their branches and roots) stratum super stratum, until the box is filled, when the whole must be trodden down, and the lid properly secured. The trees will need no care, even during a voyage of ten or twelve months; the moss being wonderfully retentive of moisture, and seeming to possess an antiseptic property, which totally prevents fermentation and putrefaction from taking place: and in fact vegetation actually proceeds during the time the young trees remain so enclosed, shoots being formed both from their branches and roots, which however are blanched and tender for want of light and air;